

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 078946
ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 R

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R 081527Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 078946

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL

SUBJECT: FRIENDSHIP FORCE FLIGHT TO UK

REF: LONDON 05660

1. APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMATION BRITISH DEVELOPMENTS ON FF.
2. ON ADVICE OBTAINED FROM MORGAN AT FCO BY BRITISH EMBASSY WE ADVISED FF OF CURRENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH POTENTIAL THREE CITIES AND FACT THAT CITY DETERMINATION WILL HAVE TO AWAIT ACTION BY TOWN COUNCILS WHICH NOT EXPECTED UNTIL WEEK OR SO AFTER EASTER. MORGAN SUGGESTED FF SHOULD PHONE HIM DIRECT.
3. WADE SEAL OF FF ATLANTA OFFICE TALKED ON PHONE TO MORGAN APRIL 6. FF HAS NEW STAFF MEMBER CAROLYN CLARK ASSIGNED TO UK PROJECT READY TO GO TO UK FOR DISCUSSIONS. MORGAN HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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INVITED CLARK TO LUNCH ON TUESDAY, APRIL 12. HE WILL ALSO ARRANGE FOR HER TO VISIT THE THREE INTERESTED CITIES. CLARK UNDERSTOOD TO BE FLYING TO LONDON NIGHT OF SUNDAY APRIL 10 AND KNOWS THAT MONDAY IS HOLIDAY.

4. QUESTION OF AIRLINES TO BE USED FOR FF FLIGHTS APPARENTLY DISCUSSED DURING BRITISH AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH

FF MARCH 29. BRITISH HAVE PUT BRITISH CALEDONIAN IN
DIRECT TOUCH WITH FF. WE NOW LEARN INFORMALLY THAT FF
EMPHASIS ON FLIGHT DATE JULY4 IS NOT ONLY FOR SYMBOLIC
REASONS BUT RELATES TO ARRANGEMENT THROUGH DELTA AIRLINES
FOR JULY 4-5 FLIGHTS. BRITISH EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED
AND NOW UNDERSTANDS USE OF BRITISH CARRIER MAY ONLY BE
FOR COMPLETION OF PROJECT. BRITISH EMBASSY DISPOSED TO
LET BRITISH CALEDONIAN WORK OUT TERMS DIRECTLY WITH FF.

5. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND POINTS IN YOUR PARA 3 AND 6. IT
SEEMS CLEAR TO US THAT BRITISH MAKING STRONG EFFORT TO
COOPERATE BUT THAT RUSHED TIME SCHEDULE IS CAUSING PROB-
LEMS, AS YOU INDICATE.
VANCE

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